

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 09720

E.O. 11652 :GDS
TAGS:OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS), US, SP, MARR
SUBJ : FALL MEETING OF US-SPANISH COUNCIL

REF: STATE 203068 (DTG 102235Z AUG 78)(NOTAL)

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED CONFIRMATION THAT FONMIN OREJA AGREES TO HOLDING THE NEXT MEETING OF THE US-SPANISH COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 4 IN NEW YORK AND ACCEPTS THE SECRETARY'S KIND OFFER TO FOLLOW ESSENTIALLY THE SAME FORMAT USED LAST YEAR, I.E., A BRIEF BILATERAL TALK, FOLLOWED BY THE COUNCIL MEETING AND A WORKING LUNCHEON. OUR FOREIGN MINISTRY CONTACTS WERE CLEARLY PLEASED BY THE QUICK RESPONSE PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT ON THIS MATTER.

2. THE OCTOBER 4 DATE HAS ALREADY APPEARED IN THE MADRID PRESS, APPARENTLY HAVING BEEN GIVEN OUT BY THE SPANISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AT THE END OF LAST WEEK.

3. THE FULL EXTENT OF SPANISH PARTICIPATION IN THIS MEETING OF THE COUNCIL IS NOT YET KNOWN. THE FOLLOWING ARE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE AS OF THIS MOMENT: MINISTER
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OREJA; HIS CHEF DE CABINET, FERNANDEZ DE SOIGNIE; THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR NORTH AMERICAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS, DURAN; THE SPANISH PERMANENT SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL, BERDEJO; THE NEW SPANISH CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF (THE INCUMBENT RETIRES EARLY IN SEPTEMBER), IF ONE IS NAMED IN TIME, OTHERWISE WHOEVER IS ACTING; THE SPANISH CO-DIRECTOR OF THE COMBINED

MILITARY COORDINATION AND PLANNING STAFF (CMCPS) AROZARENA;
AND A SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE.
DEPENDING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING
OTHER SPANISH CO-CHAIRMEN OF JOINT COMMITTEES OF THE
COUNCIL BESIDES THE CJCS (JOINT MILITARY COMMITTEE) AND
DURAN (JOINT COMMITTEE FOR POLITICO-MILITARY ADMINIS-
TRATIVE AFFAIRS AND AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION WITH
NATO) MAY ATTEND, OR, ALTERNATIVELY, BE REPRESENTED BY
APPROPRIATE OFFICERS OF THE SPANISH EMBASSY, AS OCCURRED
LAST YEAR.

4. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF WE COULD CONFIRM TO THE SPANISH
SOON THAT GENERAL JONES WILL ATTEND THIS MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL.

5. WE UNDERSTAND THAT CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN IN
JCS TO SUGGESTING TO THE SPANISH SIDE OF THE JOINT
MILITARY COMMITTEE THAT ITS NEXT MEETING BE HELD IN
WASHINGTON ON OCTOBER 3. WE BELIEVE SUCH A PROPOSAL WOULD
BE WELL RECEIVED HERE. AGAIN IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO PIN
THIS DOWN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. TODMAN

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